

ROCKVILLE

Reports

City of Rockville Newsletter

Vol. 50 No. 9 September 2002



Morella to Seek Federal Funds For Rockville Town Center

Congresswoman Connie Morella has pledged to pursue federal funding that would support the creation of a vibrant Town Center in Rockville. About \$98 million in public money will be required for the project, and Rockville has sought federal funding to support a portion of the cost of the development.

Congresswoman Morella came to Rockville

on Aug. 12 and met with Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo and Councilmember Susan Hoffmann. The group walked from Rockville City Hall, followed Maryland Avenue north and ended up at the focal point of the planned new development at the intersection of Middle Lane.

Their stopping point overlooked the new planned site for the Rockville Regional Library. In June, the City took the first major step toward moving the Town Center project ahead by selecting the site to relocate the library. Plans call for the library to be open in 2005, spurring other development.

"The great news is that we are working together with the county. We are looking for help from the state. And we are hoping from some help on the federal level as well," said

Mayor Giammo. "This is really a partnership of all levels of government, but it also is a partnership with the people of Rockville."

The City is seeking approximately \$3.5 million in federal funds to help the Town Center Project.

"It is difficult on the federal level, as it is in the State Legislature, to find extra money," said

Congresswoman Morella as she stood near the site of the new library. "But this project is important. It has a great deal of promise and I want to help in any way I can. I think it is exciting for all of Montgomery County. But I also will be watching as a longtime resident of this county and someone who is very close to Rockville. I have an office right here in downtown Rockville. I am truly a Rockvillian."

On June 17, Rockville's Mayor and Council approved purchase of a site as home of the new library. Selection of the site on the

southwest corner of the intersection of Beall Avenue and the planned Maryland Avenue Extended, just east of Federal Realty's shopping center, will allow Montgomery County to continue with the detailed design phase of the library. ❖



U.S. Congresswoman Connie Morella (middle) walks with Rockville Mayor Larry Giammo and Councilmember Susan Hoffmann in Town Center.

Rockville, Gaithersburg Unite on Air

Rockville and Gaithersburg, the two largest municipalities in Montgomery County and two of the five largest cities in Maryland, have declared they are joining forces to let state legislators and members of the Montgomery County Council know they have common interest on several issues that are of great importance to their more than 100,000 combined residents.

Mayor Larry Giammo and the Council of Rockville joined Mayor Sidney A. Katz and the City Council of Gaithersburg at Rockville City Hall on Aug. 5 to announce the first of the priorities in which they are uniting to gain statewide and county support. Mayor Giammo and Mayor Katz stressed that they would like members of the County Council and state officials to support the building of the Inter-County Connector (a proposed east-west highway that would run from I-270 to Prince George's County) and the Corridor Cities Transitway (a proposed light rail line that would run north-south from the Shady

Grove Metro station to the growing community of Clarksburg).

"The cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg represent more than 100,000 Montgomery County residents," said a joint statement issued by the two cities. "The elected bodies of both cities have strengthened their relationship with each other in support of several important measures that will enhance the quality of life in the two cities for their residents and businesses."

The statement stressed that the cities are ready to look at an alternative to continuous growth.

"For too long, the citizens in Montgomery County have been given a false choice: you were either pro-growth and pro-roads OR no growth and no roads," the cities said. "We believe there is a third and better choice: build the necessary infrastructure and control development. The two cities are also committed to ensuring that development enhances the quality of life of our residents and promotes the principles of Smart Growth for sustainable communities." ❖



Activities such as water aerobics for seniors helped Rockville earn a City Livability Award.

City Recognized for Senior Programs

Rockville's programs for senior citizens have long been considered a model for the State of Maryland. And now, people nationally are taking notice.

In June, the U.S. Conference of Mayors bestowed a City Livability honorable mention award to Rockville for its dedication to seniors. It was one of only 20 awards presented nationally this year. Rockville was recognized among cities with populations of 100,000 or fewer.

"We are really pleased to be one of only 20 cities across the nation to receive this award," said Jill Hall, supervisor of Rockville's Senior Center. "We have tried to expand the depth and diversity of our wellness and fitness programming over the past few years and this award proves that we are doing a great job. We hope that our older adults will continue to take advantage of all the great activities offered and lead longer, and healthier, lives in Rockville."

Rockville's extensive program for seniors started 25 years ago when then-mayor William Hanna, Jr., suggested that the City explore a sports and exercise program for the senior population. It did, and each Mayor and Council since has built on Mayor Hanna's vision.

Now, the City boasts an extensive Senior Center serving more than 3,000 seniors who participate annually in one or more of the fitness/wellness programs offered through the Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks. In April, the Senior Center celebrated its 20th anniversary.

"I think what the City has is a great public health program," said Marjorie Costa, Rockville resident and a retired public health educator and administrator who volunteers as a English teacher at the center. "The programs are well-rounded and well-managed. Plus, they are inexpensive and available. For example, many seniors cannot walk, so there are programs for everyone, like the chair program, which exercises limbs and muscles. We can't just run around the block anymore, so having the center and the programs is very important. We are able to do it together, so it serves as a motivator for everyone." ❖

Calendar of Events

City Events

For more information on many of these events, please refer to the Summer Recreation Guide or log onto www.ci.rockville.md.us.

3-Oct.1 Five Artists-Five Decades

(Nancy Frankel, Phyllis Hoffman, Phyllis Jacobs, Margaret Paris, Sheila Rotner) Reception: Sept. 8, 1-4 p.m. Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. Free.

4,11,18,25

Out To Lunch Wednesdays. (see page 3) Music 12 noon-1:30 p.m. Town Center. Farmer's Market 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Free.

8 Sunday Afternoon Concert Series. (Chuck Durfor, guitar) 2 p.m. Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. Free.

8 Rockville's Historic District Commission celebrates Montgomery County's birthday. 12 noon-5 p.m. Beall-Dawson Historical Park. Free. For more information call 240-314-8230 or Montgomery County Historical Society at 301-240-6534.

10-19 Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra Auditions. Call 240-314-8682 or e-mail kmoran@ci.rockville.md.us.

14 National Chamber Orchestra Piano Recital (Brian Ganz). 8 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Call 240-314-8690 for ticket information.

22 Rockville Concert Band. 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Free.

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Continued from Page 1...

22 Rabies Clinic. 10-11:30 a.m. Montgomery County Animal Shelter, 14645 Rothgeb Drive.

28 Off-Leash Testing. 10 a.m. Middle Lane parking lot. Call 240-314-8930 to register in advance.

Nature Center

All events take place at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, located in Rockville Civic Center Park. Reservations are required. See the City's Web site or the Fall Recreation Guide for details. For more information, call 240-314-8770.

11 A Hike to Remember. 10-11:30 a.m. Ages 16+.

12 A Wild and Woolly Bear Hike. 4-5 p.m. Ages 5-10. \$3 residents/\$4 nonresidents.

18 Tiny Tot Walk – The Very Busy Spider. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ages 1 1/2-2 years. \$2 residents/\$3 nonresidents.

20 Arachnophobia. 7:30-8:30 p.m. All ages. \$3 residents/\$4 nonresidents.

21 Sunset Sail on the Chesapeake Bay. 2-10 p.m. Ages 10 and over. \$40 residents/\$50 nonresidents.

27-29 Cape May Adventure Weekend. 12 noon (27th) to 4 p.m. (29th). Ages 10 and over. \$250 residents/\$300 nonresidents.

For Seniors
Activities take place at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. For further information, call 240-314-8800.

4 September Birthday Party. 1:30-3 p.m. Free.

4,17,18,23 Blood Pressure Screening. 10 a.m.-12 noon.

5 Veterans' Group. 10 a.m.-12 noon. History of Aeronautics and Air Travel. Free.

5,12,19,26 Body Fat Composition. 10:30 a.m.-12 noon.

10 ABCs of Investing. 10:15 a.m.
4,17,18,23 Blood Pressure Screening. 10 a.m.-12 noon.

Continued on Page 3...



Part of the September 11 art tribute will be "Hope for Peace," left, painted by Marcial E. Candido, Janet Kelley and Patric Lucio. At right is Candido's "Reflections of September 2001."



City, Community Remember September 11

Art Exhibit as Tribute

Several local artists, including two who work for the City of Rockville, will pay tribute to the events and victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist acts through their artwork that will be on display at City Hall throughout the month of September.

Rockville's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, in collaboration with local and neighboring artists, is sponsoring the commemorative display. Abstract as well as realistic compositions depict the importance of living harmoniously, having compassion for others and continuing to hope for a more positive future.

The exhibit will feature the works of Marcial E. Candido and Janet Kelly, each

employees of Neighborhood and Community Services. The work of Josie Lim Cruz and Patric Lucio (a student at Richard Montgomery High School) also will be on exhibit.

The art display can be viewed Monday through Saturday when the doors of City are open.

Ceremony Set in Rockville for Sept. 11

A remembrance ceremony will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 11, at Rockville's Courthouse Square Park at 12:30 p.m. to reflect on last year's tragic events as a tool for learning and growth for the future. The program is titled "Living,

Lasting, Learning," and is sponsored by Montgomery County.

Among those participating in the ceremony are the American Legion, city and county officials, police and firefighters, and families of the 11 Montgomery County victims of the terrorist attacks. The Hometowne USA Barbershop Chorus will perform in Courthouse Square Park at 12 noon. The Rockville Concert Band will perform patriotic music at 1:30 p.m. as part of the City's "Out To Lunch Wednesdays" series.

To commemorate "Living, Lasting, Learning," Montgomery County will commission an artist to design and construct a memorial to the Montgomery County victims to be located in Courthouse Square Park. ❖

Making History in Rockville

Rockville's Mayor and Council have established a program to encourage owners of historic homes to pursue Historic Designations for their properties. An Historic Designation carries tax incentives, often leads to increased property values and ensures preservation of neighborhoods.

Homewood, a little-known piece of Rockville history at 550 Reading Avenue, was nominated for historic designation by the current owners, Richard Smith and Jane MacFarlane and is currently under consideration.

The impressive front of the house originally faced First Street but road and subdivision changes make it visible only from the rear yard today. The Historic District Commission found it significant for its architecture and association with the prominent Robb, Magrath and Maddox families, and its history showing the growth of Rockville and Janeta after the coming of the B & O Railroad in 1873. The next step is review by the Planning Commission and a hearing by the Mayor and Council this fall.

The current owners nominated their property hoping to take advantage of substantial preservation tax credits to improve the house. They noted that the house was featured on House and Garden TV in January 2001, but they found it by stopping by a realtor's open house. The application for Historic Designation is supported by Peerless Rockville, the city's historic preservation organization.



Homewood is currently being considered for Historic Designation.

Historic Commission Celebrates County's Birthday on Sept. 8

Rockville's Historic District Commission will participate in the annual Montgomery County birthday celebration on Sunday, Sept. 8, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the City-owned Beall-Dawson Historical Park at 103 West Montgomery Avenue.

The festival features a variety of exhibits, videos, displays and presentations on different aspects of the county's history. Birthday cake will be served. Admission is free. There is no rain date. For more information call 240-314-8230 or Montgomery County Historical Society at 301-240-6534. ❖

Spirit of Rockville

Saturday, Sept. 28
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Rockville Town Center

Arts!
Crafts!
Music!
Dance!
Food!
Games!

A celebration of ethnic traditions and tastes. Come embrace many heritages with family and friends.

City of Rockville
Department of Recreation and Parks

Back to School at Rockville University

A new school year is upon us and the City of Rockville is offering its own unique educational opportunity. Rockville University is a behind-the-scenes look at the history, government, facilities, neighborhoods and many other aspects of the community.

With eight weeks of classroom instruction beginning Sept. 17, Rockville citizens develop the skills necessary to get involved in the community, become civic leaders and understand local government.

Issues and activities slated for this semester are the history and trends of Rockville, Council/Manager form of government, tours of City facilities, tours of neighborhoods and how City departments impact the community. A graduation ceremony attended by members of the Mayor and Council concludes the semester.

One Rockville University graduate, Alan B. Frankle, enjoyed learning City facts, as well as receiving the City shirt successful students are awarded.



Councilmember Bob Dorsey congratulates an RU graduate last spring.

“It was a fascinating experience in its entirety,” Frankle said. “I was pleasantly surprised. I really enjoyed the whole program. It was an incredible experience.”

Rockville University is open to any Rockville citizen 16 and older. Class size is limited to 25, and participants must be able to attend most classes. Classes are held once a week for two to three hours. To register, call 240-314-8343 or log on to www.ci.rockville.md.us/rockvilleu.

In Brief

City Trees Need Your Help

If a street tree has been planted near your home within the last year, the City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department needs your help by watering the street tree once a week during dry periods.

Water the base of the tree with an open-end hose at a rate low enough to keep the water from running off. Provide the equivalent of one inch of rain, or three to five gallons of water each week. Avoid frequent light watering.

The City also needs your assistance with the removal of the stakes and guy wires that anchored the trees when they were planted. Failure to remove the guys from around the trunk of a tree could result in its death. Please call the City’s Horticulturist to request removal at 240-314-8707, if you are unable to remove them.

CALL 240-314-8707 FOR MORE INFO

Spots Open for Outdoor Trips

The City of Rockville’s Department of Recreation and Parks Outdoor Programs Division will provide local adventurers a chance to sail the Chesapeake Bay or visit historic Cape May, N.J.

On Saturday, Sept. 21, Valerie Oliver, director of the City’s Croydon Creek Nature Center, will identify wildlife and discuss the ecology of the Chesapeake Bay on a sailing venture. The trip lasts from 2-10 p.m.

From Friday, Sept. 27, through Sunday, Sept. 29, the City will sponsor at trip to Cape May, N.J. The trip departs from Croydon Creek Nature Center on Friday, Sept. 27, at 12 noon and returns to the Nature Center at approximately 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Participants must be at least 10 years old for either trip. Sign-up at Rockville City Hall or register by phone at Rock Enroll 301-762-4284 or www.ci.rockville.md.us.

CALL 240-314-8641 FOR MORE INFO

Audition for The Finest! Youth Theatrical Troupe

Auditions for The Finest! (formerly Maryvale’s Finest) Youth Theatrical Performance Troupe, sponsored by the City of Rockville Department of Recreation and Parks, will be held on Tuesday Sept. 17, and Wednesday, Sept. 18, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre from 4-7 p.m. Participants, ages 9-18 years, should come prepared to speak and do dance routines. Interviews with participants and parents/guardians will be conducted.

CALL 240-314-8633 FOR MORE INFO

Adult Mentors Needed

Volunteer opportunities are available to become a mentor to a school-aged youth in Rockville. Volunteers give an hour a week to be a role model and friend to a deserving child. The program is sponsored by the City of Rockville’s Division of Youth, Family and Community Services and College Gardens Elementary School.

CALL 240-314-8318 FOR MORE INFO

Go “Out To Lunch Wednesdays” For Music and Market

This summer, Rockville’s East Montgomery Avenue has become a festival every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The City’s “Out to Lunch Wednesdays” program is a hint of the vibrant Town Center that will be built in Rockville in the coming years.

The schedule for September, which is the final month for the market, is:

- September 4 Rock-N-Roll Review
- September 11 Rockville Concert Band
- September 18 Laura Baron & Pat Barron
- September 25 Jeff Ball

CALL 240-314-5022 FOR MORE INFO

Para Ud.

La Comisión Revisora de la Constitución de la Ciudad Wolicita el Aporte de la Comunidad

En julio, el Alcalde y el Concejo de Rockville designaron una Comisión Revisora de la Constitución de la Ciudad de Rockville para examinar la misma y otras leyes relacionadas con el proceso electoral. La Comisión tiene como tarea hacer las recomendaciones correspondientes para los cambios que considere necesarios. El trabajo está comenzando y cuenta con la importante ayuda de los ciudadanos de Rockville.

La Comisión invita a todos los residentes a participar en un foro sobre el proceso electoral que tendrá lugar en City Hall, en la Cámara del Alcalde y el Concejo, el jueves 19 de septiembre a las 7.30 de la tarde.

La Comisión, presidida por David Cahoon y David Hill, debe presentar un informe detallado a fin del corriente año. Aunque el Alcalde y el Concejo no impusieron límites al alcance de la Comisión, le solicitó al grupo que considere los siguientes temas:

1. Términos escalonados para el mandato del Alcalde y el Concejo;
2. Duración de los términos de mandato del Alcalde y el Concejo;
3. Número de miembros de la Alcaldía y el Concejo;
4. Distritos representados por concejales vs. elecciones generales;
5. Elecciones durante el fin de semana;
6. Derecho al voto para los extranjeros residentes en Rockville;
7. Fechas y horarios alternativos para votar;
8. Métodos para que la ciudadanía realice plebiscitos;
9. La exigencia de que los resultados de los plebiscitos comprometan la acción del Alcalde y el Concejo;
10. Revisión obligatoria de la Constitución de la Ciudad cada diez años

La mayor parte del trabajo de la Comisión hasta la fecha ha comprendido audiencias con funcionarios de administraciones anteriores, candidatos y otras personas que han tenido alguna experiencia personal con el proceso electoral de la Ciudad. Pese a ello, la Comisión reconoce la importancia de escuchar a otras personas de la comunidad general de Rockville que representan a los ciudadanos de las organizaciones vecinales y a quienes participan en actividades voluntarias específicas, como los cuerpos y las comisiones de Rockville.

—Victoria Imas-Duchovny, Translator



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Councilmembers ROBERT E. DORSEY, JOHN F. HALL, JR., SUSAN R. HOFFMANN, ANNE M. ROBBINS

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Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.

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18 Classical Music with Murray, “Back to Basics.” 1-2:30 p.m. Free.

18-Oct.9 Experimental Watercolor Techniques. Wednesdays. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$30 members/\$35 nonmembers.

18 Coping with Hearing Loss. (6 sessions) 1:30-3 p.m. \$30.

23,26,30,3 Conversational French for Beginners. 10 a.m.-12 noon.

23 Brunch for the Ballgame Bunch. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$18 members/\$23 nonmembers.

24 Relocation Issues. (6 sessions) 10 a.m.-12 noon.

24-Oct.22 Hand-Built Pottery. Tuesdays. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers.

24-Oct.30 Chinese Brush Stroke Painting. Wednesdays. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$58 members/\$71 nonmembers.

For Teens

Now accepting enrollment for the Civiteens Program. It is open to Teens ages 15-21 with learning disabilities. Trips held on weekends. Membership cost is \$45 for residents and \$55 for non-residents. Additional fees required based on trips. Call 240-314-8634 for details.

4,11,18,25 Montrose Teen Activity Center. Open for grades 6-12 from 6-9 p.m. Billiards, ping pong, Nintendo, foosball, snack bar and more. Free.

9,23,30 Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Center Movie Mondays. For teens in grades 6-12 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Permission slips required for attendance.

17,24 Teen Lounge. Lincoln Park Comm. Center for teens grades 6-12 from 6:30-9 p.m. Drop-in. Movies, billiards, ping pong, PlayStation, refreshments and more. Free.

20 Teen Club Dance. Students in grades 6-8; 7:30-10 p.m. Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Center. Refreshments. For students in Rockville schools. School ID required. \$2 for Teen Club members, \$5 for nonmembers.

TRC

11

The Rockville Channel

September Program Schedule

Mayor & Council LIVE

Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m.
General Session
Sept. 17, 6:30 p.m.
Work Session
Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Public Hearing
Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.
General Session

Meeting Replays

Monday, 7:30 p.m.
(if no live meeting)
Fri., 7:30 p.m.
Sun., Sat., 8:30 a.m. (new)
Sun., Tues., Wed., Fri.,
1 p.m.(new)
Mon.-Fri., 12 midnight

City Hall Report

Daily, 6 a.m., 8 a.m.,
12 noon, 6 p.m., 10 p.m.

Cityline

Mon.-Fri., 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,
12:30 p.m.
Sat., Sun., 6:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
(new), 12:30 p.m.
Wed.-Sat. 9:30 p.m.

Mayor & Council Review

Daily, 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,
6:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

SPECIALS

Charter Commission Public Forum-LIVE
Thurs., Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.

Rockville/Gaithersburg Mayor & Council Joint News Conference

Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m., 10 a.m.
Tues., Wed., 4 p.m.
Thurs., 4:30 p.m.
Tues., Thurs, Sat., 8 p.m.
Tues., Thurs., 11 p.m.
Mon., Wed., Fri., 11:30 p.m.

Historic Preservation

Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.
Mon., Fri., 4 p.m.
Mon., Sat., 4:30 p.m.
Tues., Thurs., Sat., 9 p.m.
Sun., Mon., Wed., Fri., 11 p.m.

Exploring Rockville's Past

Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.
Sun., Fri., 4:30 p.m.
Mon., Fri., 5 p.m.
Tues., Thurs., Sat., 8:30 p.m.
Sat., 11 p.m.

Responsive & Responsible: Rockville City Government

Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.
Tues., Wed., Fri., 5 p.m.
Sun., Tues., Thurs., 11:30 p.m.

Caregivers: Mentors

Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m.
Tues., Wed., 4:30 p.m.
Thurs., 5 p.m.
Tues., Thurs., Sat., 7:30 p.m.

Online Frontier: Internet Safety

Mon., Thurs., Sat., 7 p.m.
Sat., 11:30 p.m.

Senior Center

Sat., 7 a.m.
Mon., Thurs., Sat., 5:30 p.m.
Tues., Fri., 7 p.m.

Nature Center

Sun., 7 a.m.
Sun., Tues., Wed., Fri., 5:30 p.m.

Inside City Hall

Meetings, Minutes, etc.

Minutes Highlights

The Mayor and Council met for a General Session on June 10 and:

- Awarded bid for \$257,306 to Weber's Volvo Truck for one rear loading refuse compactor and one side loading refuse recycle truck.
- Awarded bid for \$96,715 to Mead Tree and Turf Care, Inc., for tree and stump removal services on municipal trees within Rockville.
- Awarded bid for \$169,445 to Mead Tree and Turf Care, Inc., for tree pruning and maintenance services on municipal trees within Rockville.
- Awarded rider for \$63,475 to Chester Engineers for professional engineering services to identify sources of inflow and infiltration (I&I) and conduct a sanitary sewer evaluation survey (SSES).
- Accepted of text Amendment Application TXT2000-00195, Uniwest Communications, applicant, to amend the Zoning Ordinance.
- Authorized staff to install a three-way stop sign at the intersection of Fallswood Drive and Watts Branch Parkway and a four-way stop sign at the intersection of Clagett Drive and Grandin Avenue.
- Introduced ordinance to comprehensively amend Chapter 19 of the Rockville City Code, entitled "Sediment Control and Stormwater Management"
- Adopted ordinance to appropriate funds

and levy taxes for Fiscal Year 2003.

- Adopted ordinance to amend Section 24-46 of the Rockville City Code titled, "Water Consumption Charge." The amendment increased the rate from \$1.85 to \$1.92 per thousand gallons of consumption, and took effect July 1, 2002.
- Adopted ordinance to amend Section 24-47 of the Rockville City Code titled, "Sewer Usage Charge." The amendment increased the rate from \$3.25 to \$3.38 per thousand gallons of consumption, and took effect July 1, 2002.
- Adopted resolution to establish the service charge rate for municipal refuse collection pursuant to Section 20-6 of the Rockville City Code. The resolution increased the refuse charge from \$22.25 to \$23.75 per month, and took effect July 1, 2002.
- Adoption of Ordinance to comprehensively amend Chapter 17 of the Rockville City Code, titled, "Purchasing."

Boards & Commissions Calendar

All meetings are at City Hall, unless noted.

September 4 (Wednesday)

Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

September 17 (Tuesday)

Town Center Action Team Meeting,
7 p.m., Red Brick Courthouse

September 25 (Wednesday)

Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

Mayor and Council Meetings

- September 9: General Session, 7:30 p.m.
- September 17: Worksession, 6:30 p.m.
Public Hearing, 7:30 p.m.
- September 23: General Session, 7:30 p.m.
- September 25: Worksession, 5:30 p.m.

Mayor and Council Drop-In

The Mayor and one member of the Council are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Mondays when there is a General Session or Public Hearing. The front door of City Hall will remain open during this time. Please call the City Clerk's Office as drop in times are subject to change (240-314-8280).



Councilmember Susan Hoffmann

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, Councilmembers scheduled to be available for Drop-In for September are:

- September 9: John Hall
- September 17: Susan Hoffmann
- September 23: Anne Robbins

Charter Review Commission Invites Community Input

Rockville's Mayor and Council in July appointed a Charter Review Commission to examine the City Charter—and other laws—relating to the election process. The commission was given the task of making recommendations on the City Charter to the Mayor and Council.

Now the work is beginning, with considerable help from the citizens of Rockville.

The commission is inviting all residents to participate in a community forum on the election process at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 19, in the Mayor and Council Chambers at City Hall. The forum will be televised live on The Rockville Channel.

The commission, co-chaired by David Cahoon and David Hill, has been asked to present a thorough report by the end of this year. The Mayor and Council asked the panel to look at the following issues:

- Staggered terms for the Mayor and Council
- Length of terms for Mayor and Council
- The number of members of the Mayor and Council
- Councilmanic districts vs. at-large elections
- Weekend elections

- Voting privileges for resident aliens living in Rockville
- Alternative days and times for voting
- The methods by which referenda can be generated by citizens
- The requirement that referenda bind the Mayor and Council
- Mandatory charter review every 10 years

Much of the commission's work so far has involved hearing from previous office holders, candidates and others who have had some personal experience with the City's election process. However, the commission recognizes the significance of hearing from others in the broader Rockville community who represent the citizens in the neighborhood organizations and those who are involved in specific volunteer efforts such as Rockville's Boards and Commissions.

In the spring, the Mayor and Council identified five major goals they hoped to achieve during their current term and 22 action items to support those goals. One of those goals is "Rockville Community Identity and Pride." A review of the City Charter in regard to the election is one of the action items the Mayor and Council promised to pursue.

Director Hagop Balekjian and Producer-writer Jane Rogers are key members of the award-winning TRC team.

More Live TRC-11

Beginning in September, The Rockville Channel (TRC, cable channel 11) will expand its national award-winning public meeting coverage to include live and repeat telecasts of Mayor and Council work sessions and Planning Commission meetings. The additions to TRC's program and production lineup were initiated by the Mayor and Council.

Under the new schedule, the first Mayor and Council work session to be televised is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 17, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The first live televised Planning Commission meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 4, beginning at 7 p.m.

NEW: Planning Commission Live
Wed. Sept. 4, 7 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 25, 7 p.m.
Planning Commission Replay
Wed., 7 p.m. (if no live meeting)
Sun., 7 p.m.
Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2:30 p.m.
Sun., Sat., 12 midnight

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